

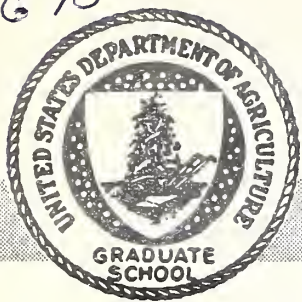
Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

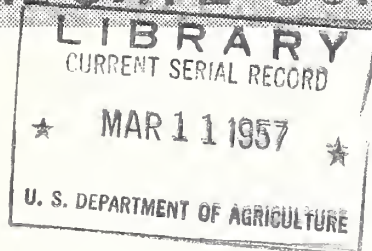
Reserve
1.984
G 75

C S R

Newsletter



GRADUATE SCHOOL ★ USDA



February 21, 1957

To the Faculty, Committee Members and others associated with the Graduate School:

You'll be interested to know that we did a thriving business in the patio of USDA's Administration building during the first week of February.

Registration for the spring semester began promptly at 9, Saturday morning, February 2, with the arrival of a group of Marines. It continued at a steady pace through the week. The preliminary count shows an enrollment of 2440 students, an increase of 200 over this time last year.

The Marines, from the Headquarters Battalion here in Washington, are among a large number of students who are attending the Graduate School under contract. A number of government agencies are now paying tuition costs for their employees. The U. S. Information Agency has contracted to pay tuition for 25 students who are enrolled in the course in Federal Purchasing Procedures. Others attending the Graduate School under contract this semester are employed by the Veterans' Administration, the Post Office, NSA, and the Army, Navy, and Air Corps. Also enrolled are 21 members of the Management Intern Program of the Civil Service Commission and a group of foreign nationals in this country for training in Census, ICA, and in Agriculture.

I want to pay special tribute to the members of the Graduate School staff who carried the main burdens of registration. As in a bank, there is much work to be done after the doors close for the day. The usual parting expression is "Good night, see you in a few hours." But as one member of the staff observed, "It's fun and I don't realize I'm tired until I start home."

* * *

Because of the wide interest in the subject matter, we feel sure that many of you will want to invite friends and members of your family to the lecture series on "Rural Influences on American Culture," to be given in Jefferson auditorium each Wednesday afternoon at 3, beginning March 20. Please feel free to do so. The lectures are open to the public and are free, given as a public service by the participants and the Graduate School.

Here is the schedule, slightly changed from our announcement in the January

Newsletter:

March 20 - Music by Donald Leavitt, Folk Song Archives,
Library of Congress

March 27 - Education by Howard Dawson, National Education
Association

April 3 - Religion by Carl C. Taylor, distinguished rural
sociologist

April 10 - Politics by Bushrod Allin, economist and philosopher of
the Agricultural Marketing Administration

April 17 - Literature by Russel Lord, author and editor from
Bel Air, Maryland.

* * *

This is to remind you that we are resuming our faculty luncheons next month. We have a treat in store, a talk by P. V. Cardon, the first he has given here since his retirement early last year as Director General of the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations. The date is Tuesday, March 5. The place, room 6962, South Building USDA. Call Mrs. Carlock for reservations.

Midway in the lecture series on "Resource Conservation", these points stand out.

The public policy that has been evolved over the past 75 years for the conservation of renewable resources has been widely accepted and, on the whole, it has worked remarkably well. One reason for this, C. M. Granger made clear, is that the policy represents the concensus of many divergent points of view.

The conflict between the interest of society and the economic advantage of the individual is being resolved. R. B. Tootell noted that this had been a factor in the Great Plains where 87 percent of the land is privately owned and conservation is largely left to the individual farmer. Long periods of drouth have made it clear that man must learn to adapt his farming operations to the cycle. The construction of 300 thousand farms in the Great Plains in the past 20 years is one bit of evidence of the growing interest in conservation. The development of the Missouri basin is another.

The development and preservation of Southern forests for wise use has given the South a great industry, in pulpwood and other forest products. Warren T. White estimates the market will expand far beyond the present capacity within a few years and he stressed the importance of research in forest genetics, growth stimulation, and other lines of study that will make the forests more productive.

Correspondence training for foreign nationals?

Walter T. Wilson, U. S. Weather Bureau, who is revising our correspondence courses in hydrology, thinks that some kind of correspondence training would be both practical and beneficial.

The Correspondence Committee of the Graduate School has asked him to explore further a proposal he submitted in a letter to Registrar Constance G. Coblenz. We quote in part:

"As a result of a recent United Nations mission, in which I did some teaching and helped select fellowship candidates for study abroad, I was impressed with the high cost of sending one scholar abroad for a few months' training and with the number of people who met the necessary language and technical requirements but who would receive no training.

"Some consideration might well be given to seeking financial support from UN, ICA, or other agencies that could also cooperate in other ways. Correspondence training would augment and supplement existing programs.

"We should expect that the course would be taken by groups, who would help each other surmount the language and technical barrier, and the lesson material probably could be translated into local languages and reproduced. I feel confident that in hydrology there are enough such groups in several countries to warrant a survey to see what the market might be."

* * *

It was our privilege to award certificates of accomplishment to two students in January.

Donald B. Agnew of the Agricultural Marketing Service qualified for the first certificate of accomplishment in agricultural economics to be given by the Graduate School. He holds the B. S. degree of the University of Illinois and plans to continue graduate work at the University of Maryland.

Hunter M. Jones Jr., a performance analyst in Navy, qualified for a certificate of accomplishment in public administration. Mr. Jones holds a B.A. degree from the University of California and a master's degree in international administration from Columbia.

Those of you who serve on our departmental committees know that by now we have suggestions for major changes that will be made in the Graduate School program for the coming school year.

The ideas were submitted or developed in committee meetings at which we have reviewed departmental offerings course by course and made decisions for continuing or dropping each course.

Among suggestions now being explored are courses on the following subjects:

Land-use that includes rural-urban planning

Retail food merchandising

The metabolism of drug substances

Cooking and management of school lunch programs

Engineering control of radiological hazards

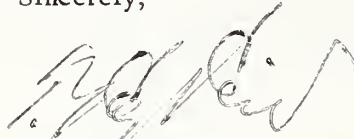
Audio-visual aids in teaching

Literature of agricultural history

General communications review for executives

Seminar for Federal employees assigned to foreign posts

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "T. Roy Reid". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "T. Roy" and last name "Reid" clearly distinguishable.

T. Roy Reid
Director